

Picture Night at the Town Hall

The Sandwich Historical Society invites one and all to PICTURE NIGHT on March 22nd at 7pm in Town Hall. Jim Mykland will lead the presentation of historical photos of Sandwich (particularly of Downtown and Lower Corner). Join the fun of viewing 'what used to be' and 'what still may be'. Share your stories relating to these vintage photos. Looking forward to seeing you there! Light refreshments will be served.

Photo from 1949 of Sullivan's Store in Center Sandwich.



SANDWICH HISTORICAL SOCIETY SUMMER 2017

OPENING DAY, JUNE 24

In the Beginning: Lower Corner and The Centre

100TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATIONS!

OPEN WED.-SAT. 10AM-4PM



Happy Anniversary!

by Jennifer L. Wright

The Society celebrates its 100th Anniversary this year...what an accomplishment! Not many organizations have stood the test of time to arrive at where we are today...in the midst of planning a wonderful celebration to highlight 100 years of history and hard work! In order to appreciate the Society's journey, it is necessary to learn about our beginning. On our website: www.sandwichhistorical.org, select "About Us" on the left-hand side of the page. You will be greeted by some great, old photos, and a wonderful story about our humble beginnings. My sincere thanks to Mabel Greeley Merrill Beede, who first suggested the need to preserve those items of historical interest and significance to our town, and to Carl G. Beede, who took her suggestion to the next level. It is evident that many generations have felt the same about our Town's history and the importance of preserving our past.

To commemorate our 100th celebration and to continue in the Society's preservation efforts, a dedicated team has been hard at work putting together a commemorative book highlighting the Society's history and recognizing those who were instrumental in making preservation of our history a reality. Taking a cue from our past, we open our summer exhibit on Saturday, June 24 with a Tea. We have many wonderful events planned throughout the summer and fall – Junior Historian and Adult Workshop, House History Workshop, a "Photographic Journey of Sandwich" Exhibit, an Auto & Transportation Show, Lower Corner House Tour, guided hikes, a special 100th Anniversary Exhibit at the Grange, and back by popular demand – a Bean Supper. With a few more fun events thrown in, we will end our 100th celebration with our Annual Excursion and Picnic – not to be missed! Come celebrate with us, and if you're not a member, please consider joining. Help us to continue preserving our past for many generations (and anniversaries) to come!

1922 Center Sandwich

by Geoff Burrows

1922 was a very interesting year in Center Sandwich. On January 13 sixteen members of the Methodist Ladies Aid held their annual meeting at the home of Emma Gilman. This house would become home for the Sandwich Historical Society in 1927. Reports presented showed a 50% gain in membership and summarized the repairs and expenses of the parsonage and church which the Ladies Aid had charge and donations made to Concord Hospital, Deaconess Hospital and for the Sunday school. The Ladies Aid also contributed \$100 "towards lighting the church with electricity."

The February 9, 1922 *Sandwich Reporter* declared "... the lighting of the ME Church by electricity has become a reality." The committee was of familiar names, Mrs. Alfred Morehouse, Joseph Wentworth and Col. Charles B. Hoyt. Mrs. Carrie Tozzer of Lynn contributed \$100. "... the interest J.A. Smith (J Alphonso Smith) has evidenced in this matter should not pass unnoticed... without his aid this great benefit to our town would have been long delayed."

The Sandwich House burned on New Year's Day 1916. The October 12, 1922 *Sandwich Reporter*: "A very marked improvement has been made on the site of the old Sandwich House which was purchased by the Quimby Trustees. The old cellar and ruins have been an eyesore for a long time and we are all very glad to see this spot changed into a nice clean common, which greatly improves the main street."

Later that month "several maple trees... set out on the common... and the grounds are now in excellent shape for the coming spring..."

In 1922 Guy B. Thompson had "remodeled the old Sandwich House stable into an up-to-date basket factory. In the basement where the engine room is, a cement floor has been put in, also an elevator to the second floor so material can be delivered at the second floor where it is to be used. He also put in several stitching machines." Guy would use the first floor for his garage.

Several exciting improvements were coming to life in 1922 Sandwich. Citizens hoped Sunshine Park might be "a permanent Fair ground. A baseball diamond has already been laid out and now a race track seems to be the next thing desired." The Trustees were also on the verge of launching a high school for the town, first called "Sandwich High School" but was The Quimby School for forty years.

The Samuel H. Wentworth Library was wired for electricity in February 1920. Guy B. Thompson wired his garage and basket shop in 1922. Houses were being electrified. Edward Bryant had his house wired in October 1922.

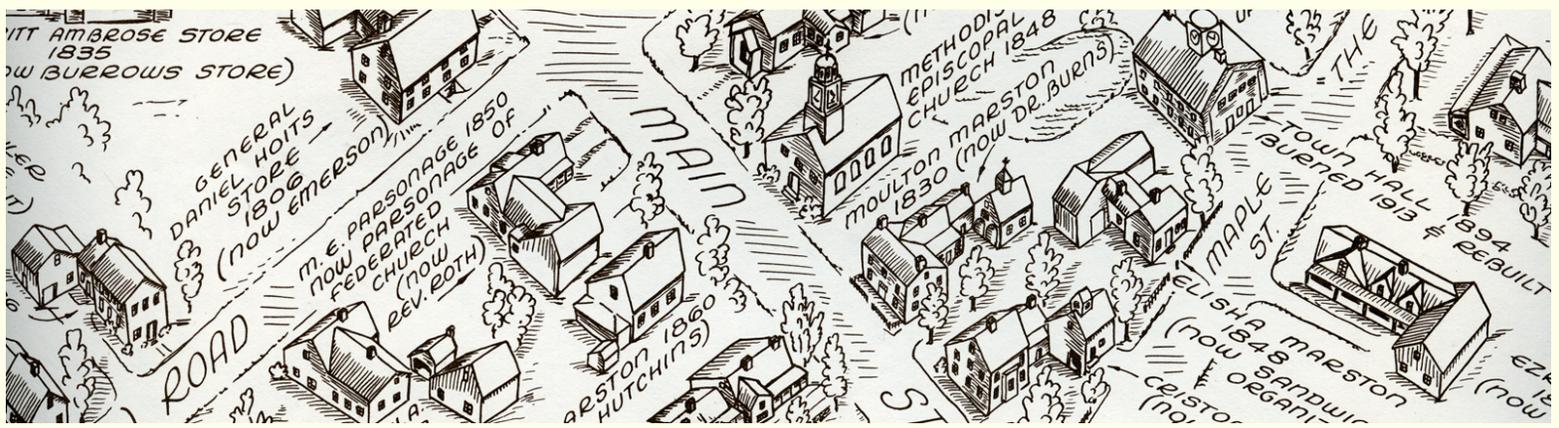
Another milestone occurred at the Willis B. Marston house in October when twenty-five friends were invited "to enjoy a radio concert, the first of its kind ever enjoyed in town. Mr. H.V. Rivinius, a representative for the James A. Jones Radio Apparatus of Boston, installed the radio. The guests listened to lectures, music and vocal solos from Schenectady, N.Y., Pittsburg, Pa., Kentucky and Ohio. Radio is a most wonderful thing and its far reaching results are almost beyond comprehension. We appreciate very much this privilege of hearing a radio concert which to the majority present was for the first time."

Three weeks later, Willis Marston installed "a Westinghouse radio in his house and is enjoying daily concerts, news and lectures."

Mr. Rivinius of Lowell was in Sandwich in December "and gave a radio concert at the Eastern Star meeting... also several concerts at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Marston."

The telephone, advocated by J. Alphonso (Phon) Smith, promotor extraordinaire, was introduced to Sandwich about 1900. In December, he "went to Boston... to attend a meeting of the New England Telephone Company." In 1922 Sandwich was enjoying the fruit of the vision of those who struggled to make sure this town had access to the great improvements of the modern world.

Source: *The Sandwich Reporter*, January 1922- December 1922.



Robert Dustin's Drawing Career

by Robin Dustin

Editor's Note: There will be a couple of publications commemorating the Sandwich Historical Society's 100th anniversary. Bob Dustin's map of Sandwich will be included as the centerfold for a coloring book of Sandwich points of interest. This article will be included in the commemorative booklet. Both Bob and Robin have been active members and leaders of the Historical Society. We share Bob's story, as told by daughter Robin, one more time here, in celebration of the multiple generations of talented and kind Sandwich folks!

My father, Bob Dustin, had no idea what to major in when starting college at UNH in 1931. He liked the outdoors so got his degree in Forestry. His first job after graduation was working for the Forest Service cruising timber and studying topographical drafting, with specialized training in visibility mapping. While living in Saranac Lake NY, where I was born, he spent his days walking through the woods, checking the kinds of trees growing in specific areas, their health, density, etc. One day he climbed up to a fire tower to visit. While there, someone pointed out they needed a 360° drawing of all the mountain tops they could see from their location and casually asked if he could do it. He said he'd try. He did it so well, he was told, "You're not going to cruise timber any more – you're going to draw!"

At some point he wanted to find a more lucrative, or less "seasonal", job so he filled out an application for the Army Corp of Engineers. One of the questions asked if he were willing to work anywhere in the US. He checked 'Yes' and the next thing he knew he, his wife Emily ("Tommy" - his college sweetheart), and I (not even a toddler) were shipped to Hawaii where he worked drawing for them at the naval base on Hickam Field. (Yes, we were in Honolulu during the bombing of Pearl Harbor. If there had been Japanese paratroopers, I wouldn't be sitting here writing this.)

After being shipped back to the States, he worked for Union Carbide in Oak Ridge, Tennessee and in Paducah, Kentucky. He did drawings of whatever they asked – buildings, cooling processes, equipment, etc. He was head of their Drafting Departments until he retired in 1971. After moving to Sandwich (where Tommy was born), he was hired by two or three different land surveyors to do their map drawings. He loved those jobs – loved drawing maps – and even more, loved perfecting his style of lettering in the map legends. He very much liked working on his own, doing a three-page map of Lake Winnepesaukee, one of Saranac Lake NY, and the map of Sandwich. He used the Historical Society resources extensively for all the research of owners and previous owners in the houses in downtown Center Sandwich.

His career ended with a stroke at just the time computer map drawing programs were taking over. He never would have liked trying to learn how to use those new-fangled contraptions – that wouldn't let him do his own lettering! He'd have rather gone back to cruising timber!

Limited Edition Tappan Rocking Chair



Tappan Chairs is excited to offer a limited edition Tappan Rocking Chair in celebration of the centennial of the Sandwich Historical Society! Many of you are likely very familiar with Tappan Chairs, being aficionados of Sandwich history, but in case you are not: Tappan Chairs is a business that has been in Sandwich since 1819--going on 200 years! It has been stewarded by generations of craftspeople in town, first in the Tappan family, and since the early 1900's, by private individuals. Its current owner--the seventh in its incredible history--is Adam Nudd-Homeyer, who himself was director of the SHS from 2012-2015. In his time with Tappan Chairs, and with incredible support from the

community, Adam has nurtured the business as a line of fine furniture with a series of national partnerships and projects, including achieving the historic designation as being the only chairmaker in the world for the last living Shaker community, and also developing a limited edition historic reproduction piece with the foremost Shaker museum in the nation, the Shaker Museum | Mount Lebanon.

This limited edition SHS Tappan Rocker will be based closely on an existing historic Tappan Rocker in the collection of the SHS, which was made by Daniel Tappan to commemorate the US centennial in 1876 (see photos). Closely matching this original in its style and shape, the SHS commemorative piece will be a four slat rocker, with ornamented front rungs and a traditional black milk paint finish. As with the original, the ornamental turnings and scribe marks will be decoratively painted. However, instead of sporting a "1776" painted on the topmost slat, this SHS centennial rendition will feature the phrase "SHS", framed on either side with the date of its founding, 1917, and 2017. As with the original, this series of chairs will also have traditional ash splint seats. As a whole, this edition will otherwise only differentiate from the original in that firstly, the seat will not be painted; secondly, the arms will be offered in oiled cherry if desired; and thirdly, unless otherwise desired, the frame will be constructed with a "modern" standard width and height for more comfortable use.

Only five numbered pieces of this special edition will ever be made. Each is priced at \$2500, and of that, a full 50% will be donated by Tappan Chairs to the SHS. Each customer who orders one of these five pieces will have the option of ordering one additional, unnumbered companion piece for \$1250, with 50% of that price being donated to the SHS as well.

Adam's goal is to have these created and ready for delivery by Old Home Week. Moreover, should your main residence be outside of Sandwich, he will deliver within New England free of charge. If you are interested in this special and generous celebratory offer--which could potentially raise almost \$10,000 for the Sandwich Historical Society in its centennial year--please contact Adam directly at adam@tappanchairs.com. The deadline for ordering is May 1, 2017.



SHS is 100!
2017 will be a celebratory season for sure!
 Abby Hambrook, Director

We have spent the winter planning and researching to bring to you, our treasured members, a terrific line-up of offerings. Our summer exhibit at the Marston House will be the last in our tour of town and will focus on the Village and Lower Corner. We will again publish an auto tour brochure. In an effort to honor our centennial, SHS will be publishing a commemorative booklet that will be available on Opening Day. There will also be a special 100th exhibit at the Grange Hall in the second half of the summer season. This summer our programming will feature Lower Corner and the Village with the goal to continue to offer a wide variety of events that appeal to different folks.

Our winter Board of Trustees meetings have been lively with some great new trustees who have brought new energy to the table. Hopefully everyone has been enjoying Barbara Pries resurrection of Sandwich Reporter items and the “Question of the Month!” Amy Brown has been working on a new coloring book, which will debut this year. Joan Cook will be creating another amazing photographic display for our mid-summer enjoyment, and Jim Mykland will host another in his series of “Picture Nights” on March 22 at 7:00 PM upstairs at the Town Hall. These evenings are low key and a lot of fun; we hope you will join us and listen as Jim describes the photos, but we also welcome you to add to the information and/or ask questions!

Please stay tuned for our schedule of events. If your membership has lapsed, please renew asap to take full advantage of our centennial fun! (go to www.sandwichhistorical.org/membership to renew)

Winter Hours	Summer Hours	What's New
through June 23 Museum closed research by appointment	June 24 – September 30 Wed. through Sat. (10-4) Museum admission: FREE Research by appointment	Coming this summer – use your credit card in our gift shop! Museum store gift certificates are now available. Visit our store for a wide range of posters, clothing, books, and more www.sandwichhistorical.org/online-store !

The mission of the Sandwich Historical Society is to collect and preserve the material culture and historical record of the town of Sandwich, and to use these resources in service to the public through educational experiences and outreach to the community.